

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An improved wheeled carriage having a frame and a plurality of wheel assemblies at least one of which wheel assemblies is a caster wheel assembly, the improvement comprising:

a caster wheel support assembly comprising a rotatable caster pivot shaft, one end of which retains a rotatable wheel and a second end of which extends through a bearing housing, said caster pivot shaft defining radial index aperture positioned on the cylindrical surface of said caster pivots shaft;

a retractable retention pin positioned proximate to said radial index aperture in said caster pivot shaft and alternately movable between a position engaging said aperture and a position removed from said aperture;

a longitudinally moveable control cable mechanically connected to said retractable retention pin; and

a remote release mechanism mechanically connected to a distal end of said control cable in a manner that [allows] directs the longitudinal movement of said control cable and thereby the longitudinal movement of said retention pin in a manner that alternately introduces or removes said retention pin from said aperture.

2. (original) The improved wheeled carriage of Claim 1 wherein said retention pin further comprises a spring that preferences the retention pin to be introduced into said aperture unless said control cable operates against the force of said spring to remove said retention pin from said aperture.

3. (currently amended) The improved wheeled carriage of Claim 1 wherein said remote release mechanism comprises a hand operated lever assembly that by lever motion pulls said control cable in a [manner] longitudinal direction that removes said retention pin from said aperture.

4. (currently amended) The improved wheeled carriage of Claim 1 wherein said retention pin is positioned proximate to said aperture in said caster pivot shaft and is enclosed within a pin housing attached to said bearing housing, said control cable extending through an aperture in said cylindrical pin housing to its point of mechanical connection with said retention pin.

5. (original) The improved wheeled carriage of Claim 1 wherein said remote release mechanism is positioned on a user accessible portion of said wheeled carriage.

6. (original) The improved wheeled carriage of Claim 1 wherein said caster wheel support assembly is positioned on a front portion of said wheeled carriage.

7. (currently amended) The improved wheeled carriage of Claim 1 wherein said remote release mechanism may be mechanically fixed in an actuated condition such that said retention pin is removed from said aperture without requiring retention of the user's hand on the remote release mechanism.

8. (original) The improved wheeled carriage of Claim 1 wherein said retention pin further comprises a spring that preferences the retention pin to be removed from said aperture unless

said control cable operates against the force of said spring to introduce said retention pin into said aperture.

9. (currently amended) The improved wheeled carriage of Claim 1 wherein said remote release mechanism comprises a hand operated lever assembly that by lever motion pulls said control cable in a [manner] longitudinal direction that introduces said retention pin into said aperture.

10. (new) The improved wheeled carriage of Claim 1 wherein said remote release mechanism may be mechanically fixed in an actuated condition such that said retention pin is introduced into said aperture without requiring retention of the user's hand on the remote release mechanism.